

Church Matters.

Religious Notices.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Rev. H. W. Hollister, Pastor. Public worship on the Sabbath at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school at 12 M. Sunday-school prayer meeting, Sabbath, at 7 P. M. Weekly prayer meeting, Thursday, at 7:45 P. M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—Rev. Ezra D. Simons, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school, 12 M. The Lord's Supper on the first Sabbath of each month, close of morning service. Weekly prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:45 o'clock.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—Rev. Dr. Lewis, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school, 2:30 P. M. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening at 7:45. Class meeting, Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7:45.

THE WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Fremont street, corner Franklin. Rev. S. W. Duffield, Pastor. Sabbath services, 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school, 12 M. Weekly prayer meeting at 8 o'clock each Thursday evening, in Chapel parlor.

CHRIST CHURCH (EPISCOPAL)—Liberty street, Rev. W. G. Farrington, D.D., Rector. Morning service, 10:30 o'clock; Sunday-school at 9:30 A. M.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART—Rev. J. M. Nardiello, Pastor. First mass, 8:30 A. M.; High mass, 10:30 A. M.; Vespers, 3 P. M.; Sunday-school, 2:30 P. M.

BERKELEY UNION SABBATH SCHOOL—Held in Berkeley school-house, Bloomfield Avenue, every Sunday, at 3 o'clock P. M. John A. Skinner, Superintendent. All are welcome.

WATSESSING M. E. CHURCH—Rev. J. Cowans, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching, 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.; Sunday-school, 2:30 P. M. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening at 7:45. Class meeting on Tuesday evening at 7:45.

ST. PAUL'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH (Watseessing)—Rev. Daniel I. Edwards, Rector. Morning service, 10:30 o'clock; evening service, 8; Sunday-school, 3 P. M.

GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Rev. John M. Enslin, Pastor. Hours of Service, 10:30 A. M. Sunday-school, 2 P. M. Prayer meeting, Tuesday evening, 7:45.

REFORMED CHURCH, BROOKDALE—Rev. J. O. Van Fleet, Pastor. Sabbath services, 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday-school, 9 A. M. E. G. Day, Superintendent. Prayer meeting, Wednesday evening.

HOPES CHAPEL Sunday-school every Sabbath at 8:30 P. M. Mr. John G. Broughton, Superintendent.

SILVER LAKE—Sabbath school held every Sunday, in the hall, at 3 P. M. Charles A. Hubbs, Superintendent. Gospel meeting, every Sabbath evening at 7:45 o'clock. Weekly Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.

THE REV. MR. SCHWARZ of our town, is on a missionary tour to the German districts of the New England States.

A CONVENTION of the Sunday-school teachers of all the German churches of Essex County, irrespective of denomination, will be held next Wednesday evening, September 5, at the German Presbyterian Church in our town.

REV. D. R. LOWRIE will preach in his own pulpit to-morrow morning and evening. He reports "a charming season at Mount Tabor." A large number of persons have professed conversion. The place has been more popular than ever before.

REV. J. O. VAN FLEET, who succeeded Rev. John Kershaw as pastor of the Reformed Church at Brookdale nearly three years since has accepted a call to the Montville Reformed Church. He will preach his farewell sermon to-morrow at Brookdale.

SOME of the texts used last Sabbath in Bloomfield:

By Rev. Geo. Duffield, D.D., "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

By Rev. Dr. Stubbert, "Desire not the small things."

By Rev. D. Simons, "And I saw as it were a sea of glass."

Take Notice.

The BLOOMFIELD SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS' NORMAL CLASS, Rev. Wm. H. Brodhead conductor, will commence regular weekly meetings on Wednesday evening, Sept. 26.

Sunday-school Items.

We would be pleased to publish each week any items of interest connected with the Sunday-schools in our township. If superintendents or secretaries of schools will kindly furnish us with these, they will receive timely attention. We are indebted to Mr. Henry Bassett, Secretary of the First Baptist Sunday-school, for the following statistics and notes:

Total membership of school... 213
Male members..... 113
Female..... 73

Number of teachers, male..... 8
" " female..... 16

Bible classes..... 5

Intermediate classes..... 18

Primary classes (2 teachers)..... 1

But one class in school without a teacher.

The rolls are carefully revised every month; consequently, the names thereon are of regular attendants. The school is in a good state of discipline, and is not only prospering under its present very able management, but is still showing the good effects of the work of its former superintendents.

The school expects very soon to have a new library of more than ordinary merit. The funds for the purchase of this have been accumulating for some time, until now the needed amount has almost been realized, and steps will speedily be taken to carry the work to completion.

It is said of Judge Black, that when some one remarked in his presence that the lines that formerly divided people in regard to religion were fading out, he replied: "Yes, and I notice that the nice distinctions between right and wrong are going with them."

Obituary.

Miss Keziah Nutman Ward, sister of Mr. Israel C. Ward, died at the residence of the latter, and since on the 2d inst. at the advanced age of 83 years. She was a lady of remarkable force and excellence of character whose memory will be cherished with pleasure by all who knew her. With the exception of the last six years, during which she was mostly confined to her room, she enjoyed through life fine and vigorous health. This was apparent in the vivacity and cheerfulness for which she was distinguished.

The superior native powers she was gifted with were strengthened and trained in early life by the work of teaching and by the strenuous study of great authors in theology and in literature. The intellectual advantages derived from these sources were joined to bright and playful wit, and made her ever a delightful companion to old and young.

She was a zealous member from her youth of the Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield, her native place; deeply concerned for the Church's welfare, rooted and grounded in its faith, and animated by its gospel of love; interested and active in its school, and in all charitable works.

The funeral services on Tuesday afternoon last, from the home of her brother, with whom she had always lived, were conducted in the absence of her present pastor, Mr. Ballantine, by her former pastors, Dr. Duffield and Dr. Knox, and were of an interesting and impressive description.

Her long life was made memorable and admirable by singular Christian grace, a life of affection, intelligence, usefulness, happiness, and hope. In the declining hours of a beautiful day her remains were accompanied by loving relatives and friends to the burial place of her fathers, and do rest in the grave till the resurrection.

Mrs. Mary Jenkins, widow of the late Frederick Jenkins, died at the residence of her son John Jenkins, on Saturday. The funeral services took place from the residence on Monday.

A Word to Collectors.

Some who read THE CITIZEN probably occupy the position of collectors. A word to these may not be out of place, nor without profit.

Your position, naturally, is not a pleasant one; many are the difficulties under which you labor, many the snubs, almost insults, you receive from ungrateful debtors, who are unable to pay even from heads of firms. Your time is considered of no account, your patience inexhaustible, your feelings ironclad. By observing the following suggestions you will be helped in your work, and find it becoming more and more a pleasant duty than a wearisome and vexatious toil:

1st. BE PUNCTUAL. If a firm has certain hours to pay bills, carefully keep to them. If told, "Call again," be patient to ascertain just when to come and go just then, neither before nor after. Business houses will soon find out that you have rules as well as others, and will act accordingly.

2d. BE PERSEVERING. You will have to call a number of times for some bills; well call. If you cannot get them to name a definite time for payment, keep calling; a continual dropping, even of water, will wear a hole in a rock.

Remember the proverb, "The dog who barks, who said: "I will avenge him, lest by her continual coming she weary me." Also that of the friend at midnight, who rose and gave, because of the importunity of his neighbor.

3d. BE PERSUASIVE. A little judicious holding on will oftentimes save a second journey. Study to present your side of the case plainly and truthfully. Don't be put off, unless there is good reason for doing so; but do not use persuasiveness as "Weasels and short-toed," etc., unless these actually exist.

4th. BE POLITE. Politeness does not cost anything, but it we often gain much. Some collectors seem to think they must be gruff, and harsh, and rude, in order to make collections. Such is not the case. Some might pay a little quicker to get you out of the place, the sooner the better, but where gain is had in one case, there will be loss in some one else, who easily said, "Never fear, my son, he has your money." If impolite and saucy, some will take pains to annoy you, but if polite and cheerful, many will take pains to accommodate. "Like begets like."

To have some collectors come into your office like a ray of sunshine; to have others is like unto a storm of sleet and hail.

5th. BE FORBEARING. Under the best circumstances you will have enough to worry about, many times you will be exceedingly tried, and will feel like chewing some body right up, but be forbearing; perhaps the clerks themselves labor under trying circumstances; a kind, sympathizing word from you may be like oil on troubled waters. Remember "a soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up strife." You can catch men flat footed with vinegar.

6th. BE OBSERVING. Keep your eyes open. The longer you route the better, the more business houses you visit, the richer and more varied your experience. It will be hard on the feet, but good on the mind. Observe methods of doing business, study business men; do not stand idly gaping at some street show, but be observing the things of that will not waste your time, but will be helpful to you in business life.

You position is indeed a good school and if rightly used will be a sure stepping stone to something higher and better.

Closed for the Season.

In a certain church the attendance at the regular prayer meeting fell off so much that it was thought best to discontinue it entirely. This was accordingly done. But when the usual time for the meeting came, a poor, infirm old woman, who had been a constant attendant, arrived. A return song was set, and she said: "Why, Auntie, you forgot that the prayer meeting was given up; was any one there?" "Oh yes," said she. "I was there, and there was God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, and a glorious meeting in had, and the promised to come again the next Friday night."

When next Tuesday night came, the good old lady found plenty of human as well as divine company at the chapel, and from that time nothing more was said about giving up the prayer meeting.

Monthly Cabinet

[The foregoing incident has been often repeated, but it is not without its lesson at the present time, when so many places of prayer are "closed for the season." It is well to remember the promise, "Where

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two or three are gathered in my name, there am I." If people keep away from the meeting or close this up, simply because "so few will be present" or because the pastor is away, it seems as if they placed more value on the presence of members or the pastor than on the presence of the Great Master himself. The words of the Apostle are still in force: "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is."]

John Ploughman's Talks.

BY C. H. SPURGEON.

Facts.

He who boasts of being perfect is perfect in folly. I have been a good deal up and down in the world, and I never did see either a perfect horse or a perfect man, and I never shall till two Sundays come together. You cannot get white flour out of a coal sack, nor perfection out of human nature; he who looks for it has better look for a fool than the sea. The old adage is, "Lifeless foolishness;" but I do not mean that we should say nothing but good, but as for the living, they are all tarred more or less with the black brush, and half an eye can see it. Every head has a soft place in it, and every heart has its black drop. Every rose has its prickles, and every day its night. Even the sun shows spots, and the skies are darkened with clouds. Nobody is so wise but he has folly enough to stock a stall at Vanity Fair. Where I could not see the fool's cap, I have nevertheless heard the bells ring. And as to sin, it comes with some shadows, so is all human good mixed up with more or less of evil, even poor law guardians have their little failings, and parish beadle are not wholly of heavenly nature. The best wine has its lees. All men's faults are not written on their foreheads, and it's quite as well they are not, or hats would need very wide brims; yet there are eggs, flowers, and such sort nests in every body. There's a telling when a man's sins may show themselves, for hares pop out of the ditch just when you are not looking for them. A horse that is weak in the legs may not stumble for a mile or two, but it is in him, and the driver had better hold him up well. The tabby cat is not lapsing milk just now, but leave the dairy open and see if the milk is not as bad as that of the kid. The first fire in the flint, even as it looks, wait till the steel has knocked a knock at it, and you will see Everybody can read that riddle, but it is not everybody that will remember to keep his gunpowder out of the way of the candle.

If we would always recollect that we live among men who are imperfect, we should not be in such a fever when we see them do wrong, and even when we see them do good, we should not be so ready to applaud them. But this is the fault of a man's pride, and it is not everybody that will be disappointed. The best of men are at the best, and the best wax will melt.

It is a good horse that never stumbles, and a good wife that never crumples.

But surely such horses and wives are only found in the fool's paradise, where dumplings grow on trees. In this wicked world the straightest timber has knots in it, and the cleanest field of wheat has its share of weeds. The most careful driver one day upsets the cart, the cleverest cook spills a little broth, and, as I know to my sorrow, a very decent ploughman has a bad day, and the plowman, plow, and often make a crooked furrow. It is foolish to turn off a tried friend because of a failing or two, for you may get rid of a one-eyed nag and buy a blind one. Being all of us full of faults, we ought to keep two bears, and learn to bear and forbear with one another; since we all live in glass houses, we should none of us throw stones. Everybody laughs when the neophyte says to the kettle, "How black is this water!" and the old hand's imperfections show us our imperfections, for one sheep is much like another; and if there's an apple in my neighbor's eye, there is no doubt one in mine. We ought to use our neighbors as looking glasses to see our own faults in, and mend in ourselves what we see in them.

I have no patience with those who poke their noses into every man's house to smell out his faults, and put on magnifying glasses to discover their neighbor's shortcomings, for if he has a look at home, they might see the devil where they little expected. What we wish to see we shall or we see, faults are always thick where love is thin. A white cow is all black if your eye chooses to make it so. If we sniff long enough at rose water, we shall find out that it has a bad smell. It would be a far more pleasant walk, at least over other paths, if a family would not turn their dogs to hunt out the good points in other folks; the game would be better, and nobody would stand with a pitchfork to keep the huntsman off his farm. As for our own faults, it would take a large slate to hold the account of them; but, thank God, we know where to take them, and how to get the better of them. With all our faults, we still have God to depend on, His Son, therefore, let us not be down-hearted, but hope to live and learn, and do some good service before we die. Though the cart cracks, it will get home with its load, and the old horse, broken knee as he is, will do a sight of work yet. There's no use in lying down and doing nothing, because we cannot do everything as we should like; faults or no faults, we must do what we can, and imperfect people must do it, or else we shall not have the harvest next year; but a ploughman as John may be, the angels won't do his work for him and so he is off to do it himself. Go along, Violet! Gee waa! Dapper!

Praying to Chance.

A lady who had forsaken her God and the Bible for the gloom and darkness of infidelity was crossing the Atlantic, and asked a sailor one morning how long they should be out.

"Fourteen days, if it is God's will, we shall be in Liverpool," answered the sailor.

"If it is God's will!" said the lady; "what a senseless expression! Don't you know that all comes by chance?"

In a few days a terrible storm arose, and the lady stood clinging on the side of the cabin door in an agony of terror, when the sailor passed her.

"What do you think," said she, "will the storm soon be over?"

"It seems likely to last for some time, madam."

"Oh!" she cried, "pray that we may not be lost!"

His reply was: "Shall I pray to chance?"

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GERMAN SPOKEN.

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Religious Cranks.

Jerusalem is said to be just now offering to visitors some painful examples of religious mania. A member of the Salvation Army, armed with a paint pot, inscribes on every wall the number of the beast in the Apocalypse; German lady believes herself to be of divine origin, and eats nothing but herbs. English woman never leaves her chamber looking toward the Mount of Olives; every Friday and Sunday a man passes through the streets bearing a heavy cross; and an American has established himself in a small house in the environs, in the belief that he is immortal.

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